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UNCLAS ASUNCION 001116

SIPDIS

SENSITIVE

STATE FOR U/S DOBRIANSKY
STATE PLEASE PASS TO USAID LAC/AA
NSC FOR SUE CRONIN
SOUTHCOM FOR POLAD DAN JOHNSON

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [TBIO](#) [ECON](#) [PREL](#) [SOCI](#) [PA](#) [KSTH](#) [WHO](#)

SUBJECT: MORE FROM PARAGUAY ON ADDRESSING THE THREAT OF
AVIAN INFLUENZA

REF: A. ASUNCION 1109

[1](#)B. STATE 153802

[1](#)1. (SBU) On 9/2, the MFA advised PolOff that the GOP has designated the Ministry of Health's Director of Epidemiology, Wilma Baswaldo, tel: 595-21-203-998, as the GOP's senior-level point of contact with respect to avian influenza. Dr. Carmen Portillo, also of the Ministry of Health, leads the avian influenza task force mentioned in ref

[1](#)A.

[1](#)2. (U) The MFA further advised that, in November, Paraguay would host a Southern Cone avian influenza conference in Asuncion. Dr. Octavio Oliva of the Pan-American Health Organization is expected to attend the conference. Post will report additional details, septel, as they become available.
KEANE